

Jersey Evening Post

AT THE HEART OF ISLAND LIFE



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Thursday 27 November 2014

60p including GST

Jersey Evening Post **COM**



Microphones at the ready: Lieutenant-Governor 'DJ' General Sir John McColl yesterday sat at the controls at Channel 103 as the station officially unveiled its new look following a major refurbishment and rebranding. Presenter Marc Curtis showed Sir John the ropes in one of the new studios

Islanders divided over gay marriage

By Michael Morris

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ISLANDERS appear divided over whether same-sex marriages should be legalised, with 54 per cent of those who responded to a States consultation in favour of the move.

A total of 654 people out of the 1,213 who took part in the survey said they were in favour of gay marriage. A further 548 said that they were against the move.

A report accompanying the survey, which was launched after the States voted in favour of carrying out more research on gay marriage, said that the figures 'suggest that the community is far from united on this issue'.

However, Chief Minister Ian Gorst yesterday pledged that he would do everything in his powers to ensure that gay couples would be legally allowed to walk down the aisle by the end of 2017 at the latest. Currently they can enter only into civil partnerships.

'It will show that our community is tolerant, is forward-looking and has placed great focus on equality'

Chief Minister Ian Gorst

After announcing the results at St Paul's Centre yesterday, Senator Gorst said: 'I know that for some members of our community, this is a very important day. It is also an important day for the community as a whole. If the States do agree to make these changes, then I think it will show that our community is tolerant, is forward-looking and has placed great focus on equality.'

'We have had to be realistic in the length of
(Cont on page 2)

Sex trade: Police to work with hotels

By Krysta Eaves

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HOTELS across Jersey are to be briefed by the States police as part of the force's work in tackling the trafficking of prostitutes into the Island.

Meanwhile, it has also emerged that work is under way to rewrite Jersey's 100-year-old prostitution

...and 100-year-old law to be updated

law, which is leaving the force powerless to crack down on the sex trade.

The latest developments come after a JEP investigation revealed that more than 40 prostitutes are operating in Jersey,

with police fearing that some are being forced by criminal gangs to sell sex.

Since an intelligence tip-off in August, detectives have been examining claims that women, allegedly from Eastern Europe,

were being brought into the Island and then forced to work in the sex industry.

Today the States police said that during its investigations it had received intelligence relating
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● **Should prostitution be made illegal? JEP online poll results: Page 5**

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Weather



TODAY Becoming breezy
TONIGHT Mainly fair

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Last week in numbers

JEP in print (current audited ABC figure)
Adult daily readership 52,509*
JEP online
Page views..... 277,205*
Unique visitors..... 38,721*
JEP social media
Facebook likes..... 14,526
Twitter followers..... 6,384

All information from w/e 02.11.14
 * Source: JREG 01.04.14
 #stats from google analytics for jerseyeveningpost.com, jerseylovesfood.com and boutiquejersey.com combined.



Islanders divided on gay marriage

(Cont from page 1)

time that the changes to various pieces of legislation will take and the timescale is not out of kilter with other jurisdictions.

'The consultation was about taking people on a journey, perhaps from where their long-held view or their faith view is, to a place where we're asking ourselves, does our legislation support all members of our community? So I'm not really surprised that the consultation numbers were as evenly matched as they

have been shown to be.'

He added: 'The consultation was absolutely necessary because it is not just about the change, but how you get to that change. There are always going to be some people who think this is the wrong thing to do, so we have to find a middle ground which is as acceptable to as many members of the community as it can be.'

The Senator also said that civil partnerships for gay couples could eventually be phased out,

and that his department was also looking at ways to improve the legal rights of co-habiting couples.

Meanwhile, rainbow flags will be flown from several prominent Island buildings as part of a campaign to raise awareness for gay rights. The flag, often used as a symbol of gay pride, will be flown above Mont Orgueil castle, Elizabeth Castle, Fort Regent and Cyril Le Marquand House as part of 'Rainbow Mufti Day' which has been organised by gay rights charity Liberate.

What do you make of the decision to legalise same-sex marriage? Were you surprised at how close the vote was?
 Have your say on jerseyeveningpost.com

Amazon continue deliveries to Jersey

By Tristram Colledge
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AMAZON has moved to reassure Islanders that they can still order goods, after dozens of customers were told that the internet giant no longer delivered to Jersey.

Over the last few days a number of concerned Islanders contacted the JEP having received messages from the company saying that their orders could not be delivered to the Channel Islands.

However, the internet retailer has confirmed that there has been a glitch on their system that has been sending out the wrong information to customers.

A spokesperson from the company said: 'Amazon delivers items across the whole UK including the Channel Islands. Customers in the Channel Islands are seeing incorrect information regarding delivery eligibility on a small number of products. We are working to fix this.'

The announcement comes ahead of tomorrow's so-called Black Friday, the huge global sales day that follows American Thanksgiving during which millions of pounds are spent online as companies cut



A number of Islanders have received messages from Amazon saying that orders cannot be delivered to the Channel Islands

prices to encourage the start of Christmas shopping.

Amazon UK started offering Black Friday deals four years ago, following success in the US market.

Meanwhile, Jersey Post yesterday confirmed that it will continue to deliver packages from the company.

'Jersey Post is aware that some Jersey residents are currently experiencing issues with ordering items from Amazon for local delivery.

'At present, we continue to deliver on behalf of Amazon and, we believe, most companies who operate on their market place.'

The postal company added: 'Unfortunately, there are, and always will be, companies who do not want the perceived hassle of delivering to the Island. We are working hard with UK carriers to address this, and locally to provide a greater range of packet and parcel delivery options to make the end to end process as smooth as possible.'

Police to meet with hotels on prostitution

(Cont from page 1)

to a number of premises across the Island, including several Jersey hotels.

The force said it would be briefing hotel management 'in the near future' to ensure a 'joined-up approach' in combatting the exploitation and trafficking of prostitutes.

The States police also confirmed that officers had previously been called to deal with an incident at the Mayfair Hotel in September last year. Although the nature of the incident has not been confirmed by the police, the JEP understands that a man allegedly tried to force his way into a prostitute's room.

The force said that no offences

were discovered and there were no obvious concerns for the safety or well-being of either person involved, and no further action was taken.

Meanwhile, the force confirmed it had visited the Hotel de France in December 2012 following concerns over the activity of two female guests.

Both women were given words of advice but no offence was discovered and police said there were no obvious signs of concern for their safety or well-being.

Today, in a statement States police said: 'As part of our continuing work into the potential exploitation and trafficking of prostitutes in Jersey, the States of Jersey Police have received

intelligence about a number of premises across the Island, including a number of Island hotels, and as part of this development and understanding process, the force will be engaging with and briefing hotel management in the near future in order to ensure a joined-up approach to this work.'

Home Affairs Minister Kristina Moore says that work has begun to bring the Island's only prostitution law up to date.

An online JEP poll which asked whether prostitution should be made illegal in Jersey found that 50.36 per cent of people believe it should not be outlawed.

• News Focus: Page 4.

In brief

Flying the flags

FOUR flags will fly above the Royal Bank of Canada's new office block at the Esplanade if plans are approved. The business, whose new offices are currently being built by developers Dandara at 66 and 72 Esplanade, has applied for planning permission to fly its own flag, as well as the Canadian, British and Jersey flags from the top of its building. The plans will now be considered by the Planning Department.

Nursing open day on Saturday

ISLANDERS who are interested in a career in nursing are being invited to an open day on Saturday. The event will be held between 10 am and 4 pm at the Education Centre at the Hospital. Anyone wanting more information is being asked to phone the Health Department on 442740.

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